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Tydings Seeks Detrick Report On Fever Study

Sen. Joseph D. Tydings (D-Md.) called yesterday for a full and immediate report by the Army on all activities involving Rocky Mountain spotted fever at Ft. Detrick warfare center at Frederick, Md.

Tydings referred to repots in the July 18 issue of Medical World News raising the possibility of a link between Maryland's high rate of Rocky Mountain spotted fever and tests involving the disease at Ft. Detrick.

"While experts I consulted this morning say it is probable that no direct causal relationship exists between the high incidence of spotted fever and the tests at Ft. Detrick, the health and safety of the people of Maryland dictate that we have all the facts," Tydings said in a statement.

"I would like to know how long the Army has been testing Rocky Mountain spotted fever in Maryland and whether infected ticks that might escape are used in the experiments," he said.